

The First Christian Church of Napa was founded in 1857 by G.O. Burnett. Its success built on the work of "Stormy John" McCorkle, who had founded the first congregation in the valley under a Madrona tree near modern-day Rutherford. With the motto "Let's go Forward through Faith", the Church has expanded well beyond the original eight families who formed the charter group. In 1872, members of the congregation came together to purchase a piece of land for the church building, and began construction. Lacking a resident minister in these years, four men worked in concert to lead the Church. These "Four Horsemen", who helped provide spiritual guidance and leadership in the church were A.A. Whitman, T.N. Mount, A.D. Butler, and W.P. Prall.

In 1951, the First Christian Church moved to its current location on First Street in Napa. While promoting an active spiritual life in the congregation, the church has reached out to the community and the world. Members of the church have worked on Christian humanitarian missions on six continents in a wide variety of different countries. Additionally, church members have worked in inner-city Los Angeles and San Francisco, and locally volunteer time with the Napa Valley Food Bank, Church Women United and other community benefit groups.

The First Christian Church has always taken pride in the sense of community among its members, and the work that goes in to helping members of the congregation have full lives and strong interpersonal relationships. By emphasizing the importance of family and fidelity, the church has drawn membership from families for many generations.

Madam Speaker, at this time it is appropriate that we congratulate the First Christian Church of Napa on its 150th anniversary, and thank the congregation for all it does in our community.

IN TRIBUTE TO SISTER ANN HALLORAN

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sr. Ann Halloran, a community leader, co-founder and executive director of the Dominican Center for Women located in the Fourth Congressional District. The Milwaukee Archdiocese has recently presented Sr. Ann Halloran with the 2007 Vatican II "Service to Society" Award.

Sr. Ann Halloran and Sr. Anne-Marie Doyle founded the Dominican Center for Women in 1990 in a near north-side Milwaukee neighborhood with no formal clubs or community-based organizations. The mission of this human service agency is to help create a beautiful and safe central city neighborhood by providing services in three programmatic areas: Education, employment and housing. Sr. Ann Halloran believes this three-pronged approach is essential to dismantling poverty.

The programs at the Dominican Center for Women are offered free of charge to approximately 120 area residents. Initially, the center began by offering educational programs and employment counseling. As a result of participant surveys and with the urging of residents,

a housing program utilizing a 12-block area surrounding the center was initiated in 1999. The housing program, designed to lead to home ownership, has become a primary focus of the center. The center leverages strategic partnerships and collaborations including Federal, State and local governmental agencies, faith-based organizations, sweat equity, volunteerism and the financial resources of a Habitat for Humanity loan, barter grants, IDA accounts and other resources found in the community, into affordable home ownership. Sixty-seven center program participants are now homeowners; they are primarily African-American women, single heads of households, who would not have been considered by mainstream conventional lending institutions.

The center continues to work with new homeowners after acquisition of the home by convening monthly meetings to encourage them to voice neighborhood concerns, take group action toward resolution, and ultimately ensure retention of their homes. The Dominican Center for Women and the participants in its program have been so successful that beginning in 2004 they hosted their first annual "Parade of Homes" in this previously blighted area.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Sr. Ann Halloran's contributions to the Fourth Congressional District. She has helped to transform a neighborhood into a community.

CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF TOLEDOAN SAM SZOR

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, since 1953, Samuel Szor has been an integral part of Toledo's music scene, earning him the title of Toledo's "Mr. Music." Mr. Szor ends his 55th season as the conductor/music director of the immensely popular Music under the Stars summer concert series held at the Toledo Zoo Amphitheater. Each summer our community happily anticipates the inception of another summer of the concert series of Music under the Stars. Because of Mr. Szor, music-lovers can rest in the Toledo Zoo's amphitheater taking in the beautiful sounds and sights of Toledo. Besides his dedication to bringing a collection of classical, patriotic and spirited pieces to Toledo residents, he holds an extensive list of additional credits.

In his early years after graduating with degrees from University of Michigan, he played bassoon with the Toledo Symphony, Toledo Opera Orchestra and the University of Toledo Woodwind Quintet and Trio as well as playing jazz saxophone in area bands and clubs. His conducting credits include the Casual concert series and other concerts with Toledo Symphony, twenty years with the Perrysburg Symphony Orchestra, guest conductor with the famous Goldman Memorial Band in New York City, and conductor/music director for opera, musical comedy and ballet theatre in the Toledo area. In the choral realm, he has been conductor/music director of The Toledo Choral Society for 49 years and was a director of church music for over 40 years. In addition to his conducting credits, he was a music educa-

tor serving for 32 years in the secondary and college levels in Toledo.

Mr. Szor has received numerous awards for his distinguished work, most recently including a national award from the American Hungarian foundation and the Ovation Award from the Vocal Arts Resource Network of Ohio. Toledo garners much pride in his commitment to evoke a mosaic of melodies to our community for decades. Sam Szor is an inspiration to conductors and musicians everywhere by his grace, ease and spirit toward music.

HONORING COPPELL MIDDLE SCHOOL NORTH BAND

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Coppel Middle School North Band on being named an Outstanding National Wind Band and winning the 1-A Middle School Division.

Coppel Middle School North was among 81 bands selected in the top 25 percent of recordings submitted to the National Winds Band Honors competition. Each band was judged once again and narrowed the selection down to the National Honor in each classification. Charles Peltz, director of the New England Conservatory of Music, and noted composer John Mackey were the judges for this event.

All National award-winner bands will be invited to perform in the prestigious National Theatre in Washington, D.C. in May 2008.

Coppel Middle School North's band is under the direction of Joey Ashbrook and assistant director, Jeremy Lindquist.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to represent Coppel Middle School North and their exceptional band department in the 24th District of Texas.

IN RECOGNITION OF T. J. LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND THE IRVING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate T. J. Lee Elementary School and the Irving Independent School District (IISD) Food Service Department for being awarded the coveted Gold School Award by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

T. J. Lee Elementary is the first school in Texas to receive this prestigious honor. As part of the USDA's HealthierUS School Challenge program, schools around the nation are awarded two levels of certification: Silver and Gold. IISD eagerly took on this challenge and assumed a leadership role to ensure that our students are being served healthy school meals in addition to providing nutrition education and a variety of physical activities. Given the variety of food available, particularly fast food and snacks in vending machines, the

students at T. J. Lee are taking steps toward a healthier future by making important nutrition choices at a young age.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating them for receiving this tremendous honor.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LAVACE
STEWART ELEMENTARY

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate LaVace Stewart Elementary School in Kemah, Texas, in my congressional district, for being awarded a No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon award. LaVace Stewart Elementary School earned this award by going from acceptable to exemplary in State accountability ratings in less than 4 years.

LaVace Stewart Elementary School is one of only 23 Texas schools selected for the Blue Ribbon award, which honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools that demonstrate superior academic performance or high gains in student achievement.

LaVace Stewart is certainly worthy of this award. As Dr. Sandra Mossman, superintendent of schools for Clear Creek Independent School District said, "[W]hen you walk into [LaVace Stewart] you can immediately feel the enthusiasm for learning and witness the compassion for children."

Madam Speaker, I agree with Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings that "It takes a lot of hard work by teachers and students to become a Blue Ribbon school, and it's a privilege to celebrate their great effort." I am pleased to extend my congratulations to the teachers, administrators, parents, and the students of LaVace Stewart Elementary School for the school's is named a Blue Ribbon School.

IN MEMORY OF STAFF SERGEANT
JAMES DAVID BULLARD

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Staff Sergeant James Bullard of South Carolina. Staff Sergeant Bullard was killed last week while serving with the South Carolina Army National Guard's 218th Brigade in Afghanistan.

Staff Sergeant Bullard is the second member of the 218th to lose his life serving during Operation Enduring Freedom. As a former member of the 218th brigade I wish to recognize the ultimate sacrifice made by Staff Sergeant Bullard and express my deepest condolences on behalf of the House of Representatives and my family to his wife, Amber, his son, his parents and family, friends, and fellow soldiers. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time.

Just like the millions of brave men and women who served our country in uniform, Staff Sergeant Bullard was a true patriot who

fought to defend our freedoms and to protect American families. We are forever grateful for his sacrifice and that of our military men and women around the world.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th.

TRIBUTE TO SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE UNIVERSITY BULLDOG
FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the South Carolina State University Bulldog football team. This season the Bulldogs celebrate 100 years of play on the gridiron, and what a tremendous century it has been.

In 1907, what was then South Carolina State Agricultural and Mechanical College played its first game against Georgia State in Savannah. Just 3 years later, SC State became a charter member of the Georgia (GA)-South Carolina (SC) Athletic Association, which eventually changed its name to the South Atlantic Association.

In 1919, South Carolina State College won its first GA-SC Intercollegiate Association Championship. The Bulldogs were on their way to building a tremendous legacy.

Just 4 years later in 1923, SC State lost an important rivalry game with Tuskegee College, 13-6, in Orangeburg. However, the loss fueled the fire in the Bulldogs, and they went on 4 years later to a perfect 7-0 conference record and to capture their second South Atlantic Conference title. That season the team racked up six shutouts and lost only one game. This began the Bulldogs' reputation as a powerhouse in the South Atlantic Conference.

Oliver C. Dawson was named the Bulldogs' head football coach in 1937, marking the beginning of a new era. Coach Dawson was a beloved leader on campus—teaching classes and coaching multiple sports. During his tenure, the football team took a 2-year hiatus due to World War II, but they came back full of passion. In 1947, they went undefeated in regular season play and took on Shaw University for the Black National Championship in Washington, DC. Although SC State lost that game 8-0, the Bulldogs showed the tenacity for which they have become famous. Coach Dawson left such a legacy at SC State that the current football stadium bears his name.

Many trying years followed the 1947 successful season. The team struggled to regain its elite status, and then in 1965 tragedy struck. Player John Devlin of Greenwood was stricken while on the field and died. This sudden loss of a player and teammate revived the Bulldog spirit and the team went on to an 8-1-0 record that season under the leadership of Coach Oree Banks. Devlin's #31 jersey became the first ever retired in SC State athletic history. That same season, several Bulldog players received All-Conference honors, and Coach Banks was named SIAC and NAIA District 6 Coach of the Year.

In 1970, SC State President Maceo Nance led the school to become a charter member of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC). This transition was followed by the need to

find a new head football coach. In 1973, SC State tapped alumnus Willie Jeffries to lead the Bulldogs. Prior to Coach Jeffries' arrival, the Bulldogs had posted a dismal 1-9 season. He followed that with a 7-3-1 record, which was just the beginning of a tremendous era in Bulldog football history.

Under Coach Jeffries, the SC State Bulldogs built a record of 50-13-4 in just six seasons, and won its first of eleven MEAC titles. In 1976, the team captured its first Black National Championship in a 26-10 win over Norfolk State.

Due to his great success, other football programs sought Coach Jeffries' leadership. In 1978, he left to make history as the first African American head coach at a majority white university at Wichita State.

The Bulldogs rallied under the helm of its former Assistant Coach Bill Davis, who led SC State to its second National Black Championship, and the first of two straight invitations to the prestigious Division IAAA playoffs. Coach Davis led the Bulldogs to dominate the MEAC in the 1980s with back-to-back, 10-game seasons in 1980 and 1981.

Coach Davis was succeeded by Dennis Thomas in 1985, who coached the Bulldogs for three seasons. Then in 1989, the Bulldogs' favorite son, Willie Jeffries, returned as head coach.

In his second stint, Coach Jeffries produced seven winning teams. In 1994, he led the Bulldogs to a 10-2 season, again winning the MEAC championship. Coach Jeffries ended his career as the Bulldogs head football coach in 2002, and he was succeeded by another SC State alumnus.

Coach Buddy Pough left his assistant coaching job at the University of South Carolina to return to Orangeburg to lead the team he loved. His passion for the team and the players showed, as he orchestrated a new era of Bulldog dominance. In 2004, SC State compiled a 9-2 record and the Bulldogs once again were at the top of the MEAC conference. That season, the team ranked number two in the final polls of both the Sheridan Broadcasting Network and the American Sports Wire. They earned a Top 25 Division I-AA poll ranking from both the Sports Network and USA Today/ESPN. Today, Buddy Pough continues to lead the Bulldogs with the same tenacity.

The South Carolina State Bulldog football team has compiled a vibrant 100-year history. Over the century, the Bulldogs have won eleven MEAC titles. They have three National Black Championships in 1976, 1981, and 1994, and earned NCAA Division I-AA berths in 1981 and 1982. Three of its players have been enshrined in the prestigious Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio—Marion Motley (Cleveland Browns, 1965), David "Deacon" Jones (Los Angeles Rams, 1980) and Harry Carson (New York Giants, 2006). In addition to retiring #31 John Devlin's jersey, four other Bulldog standouts have had their jerseys retired—#66 Deacon Jones, #75 Harry Carson, #90 Donnie Shell, and #94 Robert Porcher.

Madam Speaker, I invite you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary 100-year history of the South Carolina State University football team. As an SC State alumnus and football fan who spent my entire